

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LILONG 00390 141937Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 OPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CPR-01 A-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /066 W

-----142004Z 027821 /45

P 141212Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 717

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MI

SUBJECT: SEARCHING OF EMBASSY OFFICERS BY SECURITY OFFICIALS
UPON ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT

REF: (A) LILONGWE 0320 (B) LILONGWE 0-88

1. WHEN I HAD FINISHED MATTER DISCUSSED REF B, BANDA SAID HE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT QUESTION OF SEARCHES WHICH I HAD RAISED AT OUR LAST PREVIOUS MEETING. SAID HE ASSUMED I HAD BEEN TOLD BY NGWIRI ABOUT SOLUTION. WHEN I REPLIED IN NEGATIVE HE SEEM QUITE ANNOYED AND SAID SOMEONE ON MY STAFF MUST HAVE BEEN INFORMED. HE THEN WENT ON TO TELL ME OFFICERS ON MY STAFF HAD BEEN TRYING TO TAKE MONEY OUT OF THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY AND HAD BEEN CAUGHT RED HANDED BY SECURITY OFFICIALS AT THE AIRPORT. WHEN I DEMURRED HE SAID HE HAD A REPORT FROM THE POLICE AND WOULD SHOW IT TO ME. HE LEFT THE ROOM FOR A FEW MINUTES AND UPON RETURN HANDED ME A "CONFIDENTIAL" REPORT FROM POLICE COMMISSIONER KAMWANA WHICH CITED ALLEGED ATTEMPTS BY THIRD SECRETARY KOELEMAY TO TAKE DOLLAR CURRENCY OUT OF THE COUNTRY ILLEGALLY. A QUICK GLANCE THROUGH THE REPORT SHOWED ME THAT IT WAS FALSE AND EVEN INSULTING TO THE EMBASSY IN THE IMPLICATIONS DRAWN. HOWEVER, I TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT THERE WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING; THAT I HAD BEEN REFERRING TO SEARCHES OF ACCREDITED DIPLOMATS UPON ARRIVAL AT CHILEKA AIRPORT, CONTRARY

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TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION; THAT THE QUESTION OF OFFICERS DEPARTING WITH DOLLAR CURRENCY IN THEIR POSSESSION WAS ANOTHER MATTER WHICH I WAS TRYING TO CLARIFY WITH THE RESERVE BANK AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND HAD NOT WISHED TO TROUBLE PIM ABOUT; THAT, HOWEVER, MY OFFICERS HAD NEVER DENIED HAVING DOLLAR CURRENCY WHEN ASKED; THAT \$22.00 PER PERSON IS JUST NOT ENOUGH FOR US TO HAVE WHEN TRAVELING TO THE U.S., AND THAT FOR

PRACTICAL REASONS OF NECESSITY I JUST WANT THE LIMIT RAISED TO
A MORE REASONABLE FIGURE; AND, MOREOVER, THAT THE DOLLARS ARE
ISSUED FROM EMBASSY FUNDS WITH MY CONSENT AND NOT PURCHASED ON
THE STREET. AFTER FUSSING A BIT MORE AND SHOWING THAT SOMEONE
HAS THOROUGHLY CONFUSED HIM ABOUT BOTH MATTERS, HE GRUDGINGLY
SAID I SHOULD WORK THEM OUT WITH PERM. SEC. KACHINWE AND
NGWIRI.

2. COMMENT: I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH NGWIRI LATER TODAY.

STEVENSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, MEETINGS, ALLEGATIONS, CURRENCY CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LILONG00390
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: LILONGWE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770363/aaaacdlb.tel
Line Count: 73
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b7597bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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